

FIG. 1

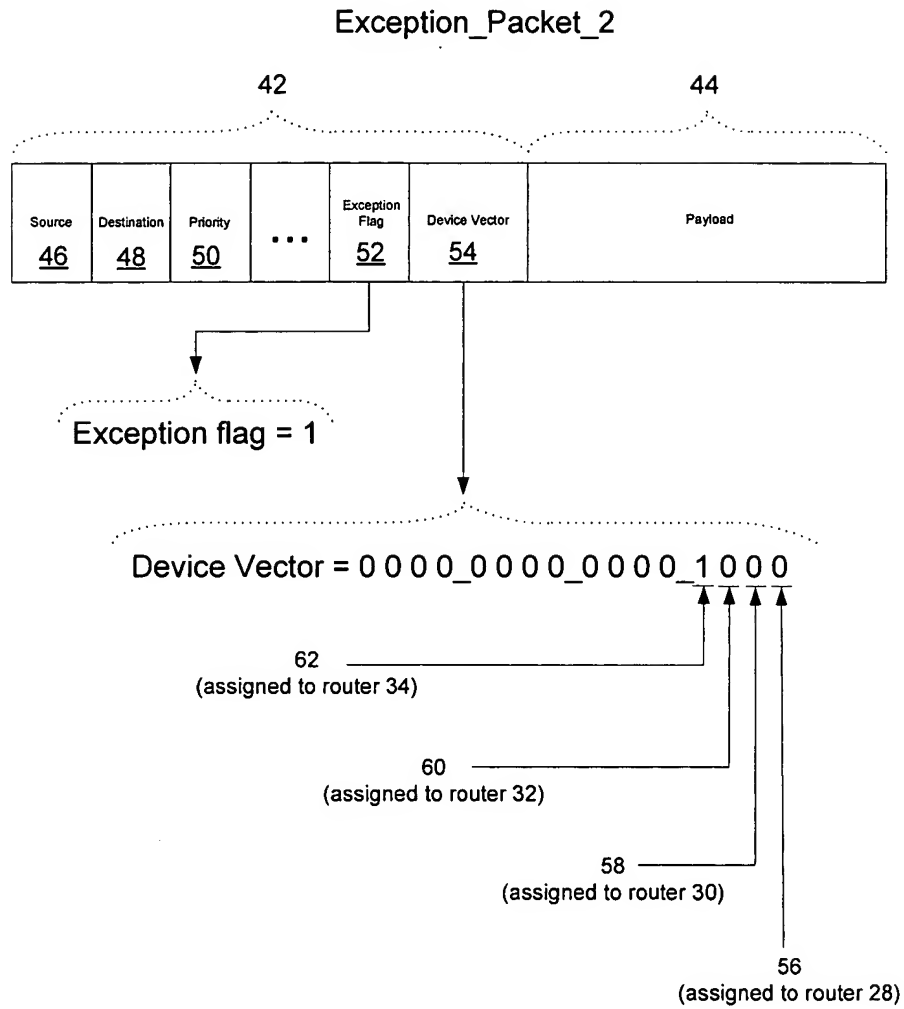


FIG. 2

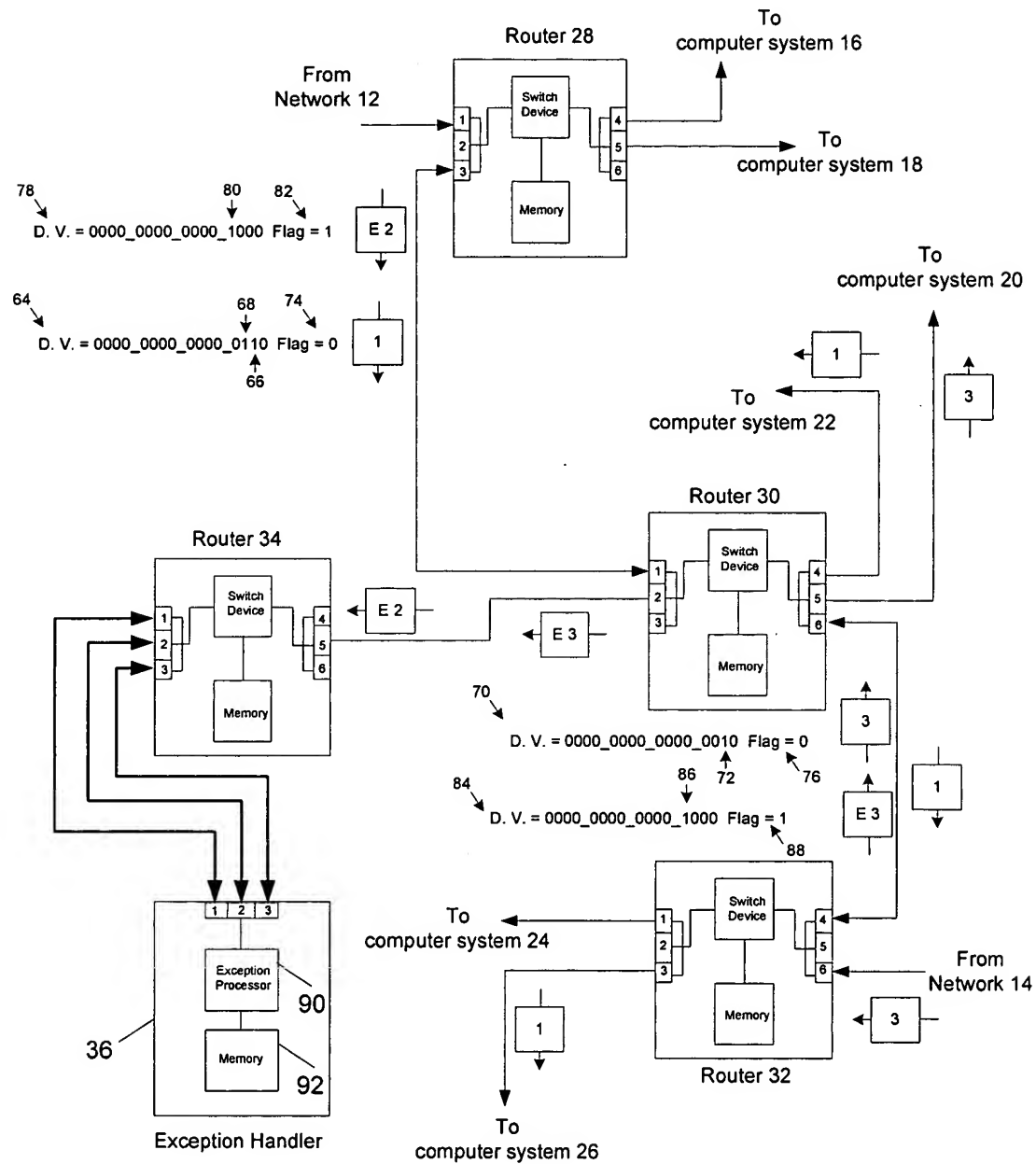


FIG. 3

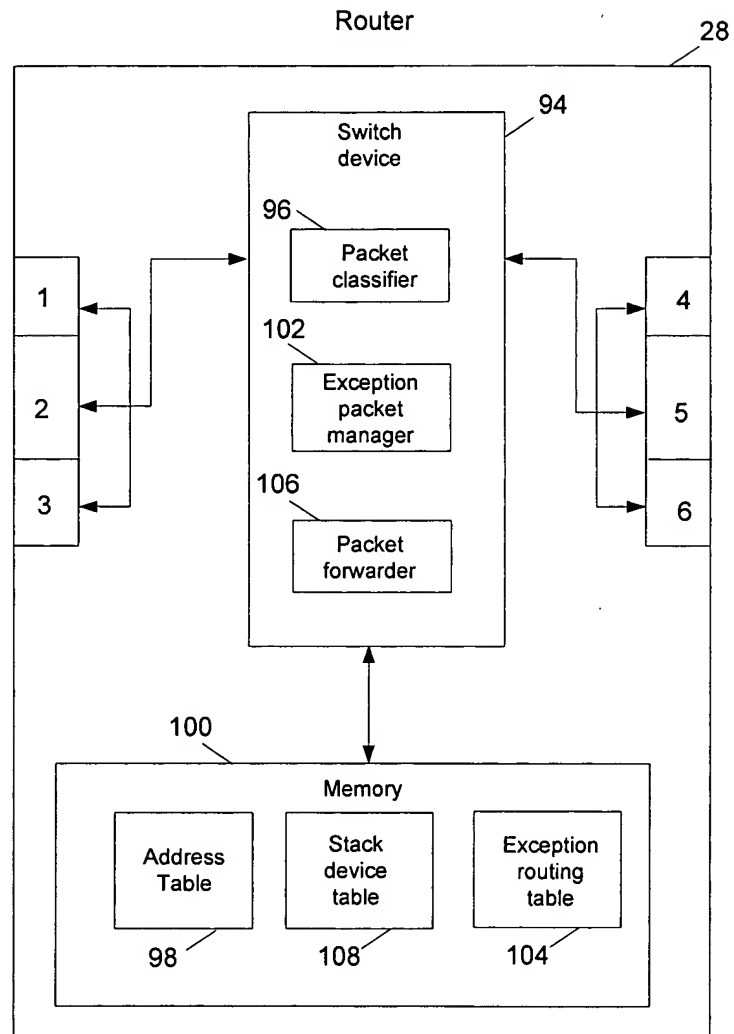


FIG. 4

110

Stack device table
stored in Router 28

Stack Device Number	Router 28 Port Number
30	3
32	3
34	3

118

Exception routing table
stored in Router 28

Stack Device Number	Router 28 Port Number
34	-

112

Stack device table
stored in Router 30

Stack Device Number	Router 30 Port Number
28	1
32	6
34	2

120

Exception routing table
stored in Router 30

Stack Device Number	Router 30 Port Number
34	-

114

Stack device table
stored in Router 32

Stack Device Number	Router 32 Port Number
28	4
30	4
34	4

122

Exception routing table
stored in Router 32

Stack Device Number	Router 32 Port Number
34	-

116

Stack device table
stored in Router 34

Stack Device Number	Router 34 Port Number
28	5
30	5
32	5

124

Exception routing table
stored in Router 34

Non-Stack Device Number	Router 34 Port Number
36	1, 2, 3

FIG. 5

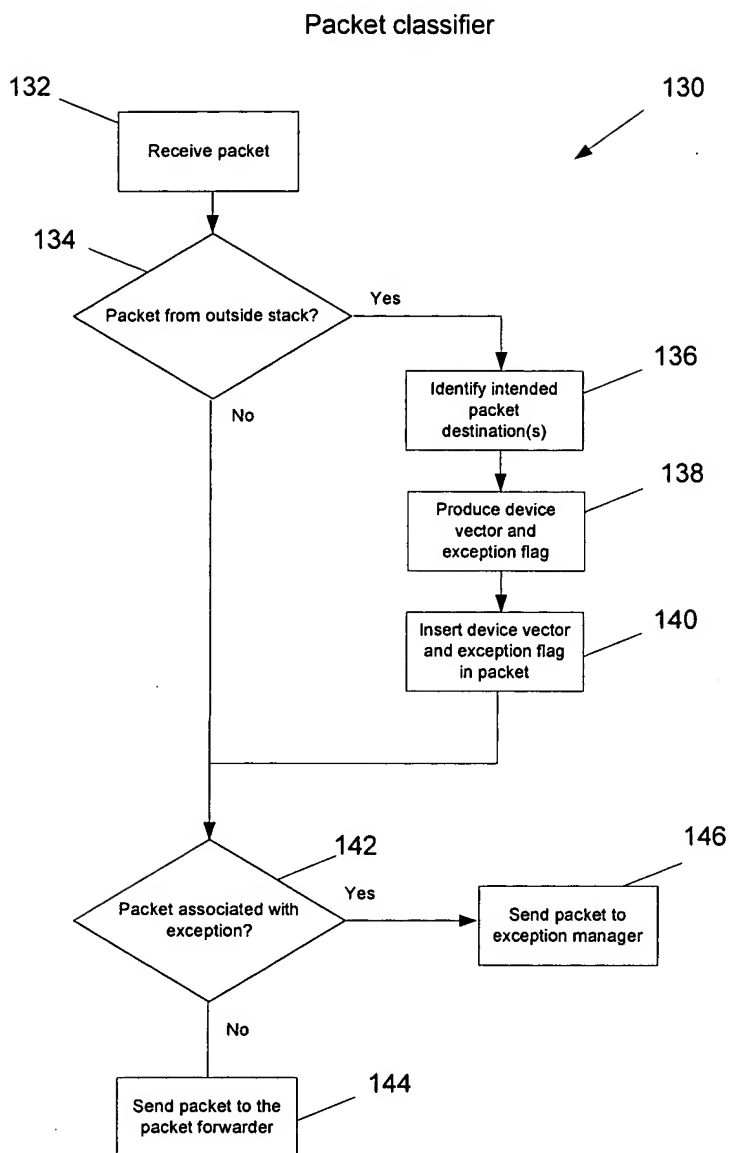


FIG. 6

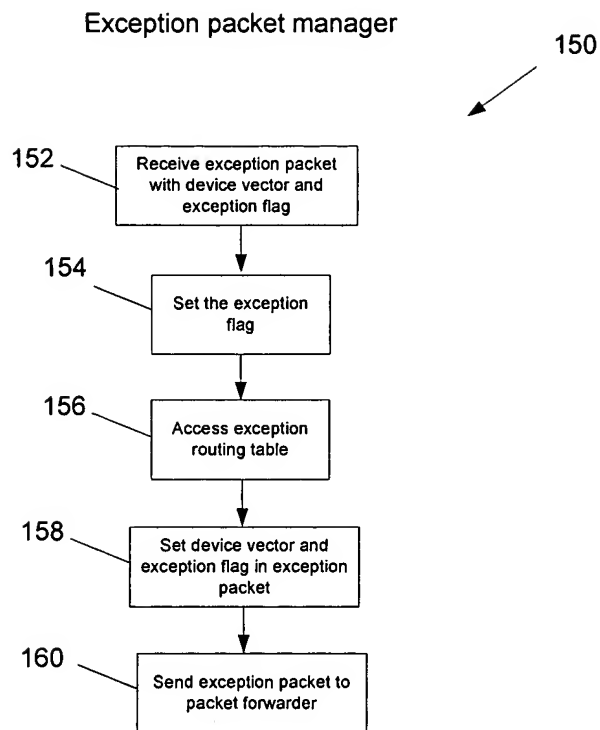


FIG. 7

Packet forwarder

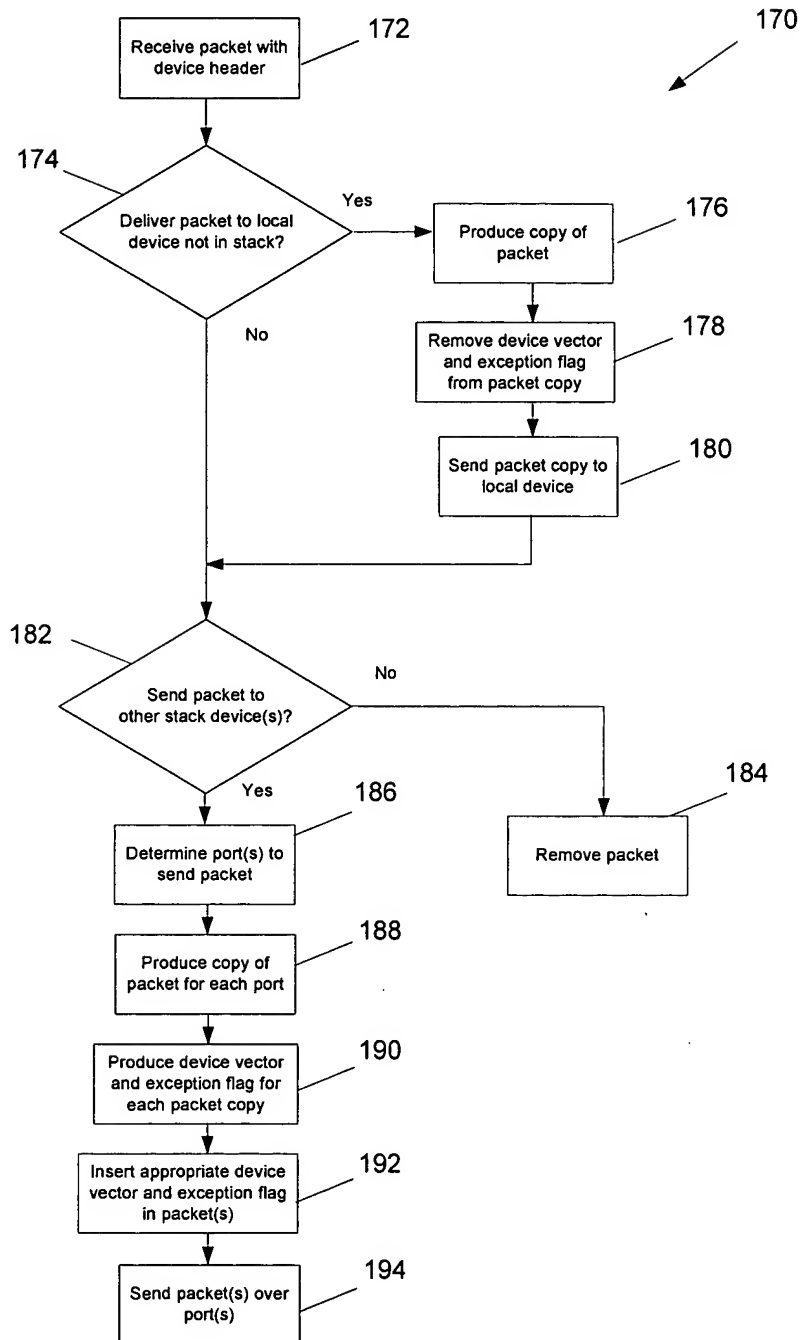


FIG. 8